

**From:** Jason LaVoie  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/17/01 12:19pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern,

As a member of the software industry whom is intimately familiar with Microsoft's Windows NT based operating systems, I find the settlement agreement with Microsoft Corporation unsatisfactory. The three member oversight committee is laughable. First and foremost it is open for corruption (e.g. payoffs.) Secondly, it is far too subjective. Thirdly, I possess severe doubts this committee is going to have any real bearing on Microsoft's practices.

More needs to be done to open up the marketplace for competition. I do not feel the current settlement is going to change the landscape of the desktop operating system market. Microsoft ships unstable and often junky operating systems to people who can barely use a computer. The end user suffers while Microsoft takes its time shipping service packs. Most end users do not even know what a service pack is, let alone know how to install it. In any other market this practice would be unacceptable. Perhaps service packs to prematurely shipped cars that fell apart while driving would be appropriate? Microsoft gets away with this behavior because it CAN. Capitalism works because of competition, and Microsoft has none. Linux is not and may not ever be a viable competitor in the Desktop Operating System market.

I believe more can and should be done to curb the anti-competitive behavior of Microsoft and to open up the marketplace for competition. The current settlement does not effectively accomplish either of these goals.

Thank you for your time.

Jason LaVoie  
34 Maple Ln  
Mahopac, NY 10541